

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-29 (Canceled)

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A method for ~~reducing or eliminating antimicrobial drugs in the~~ treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens in the absence of therapeutic or prophylactic amounts of antimicrobial drugs, the bacterial infection caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof, the method comprising:

feeding the chickens a diet which diet is effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof, the diet including xylanase with the xylanase being present in an amount effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of the bacterial infection in the absence of an antimicrobial drug or in the presence of an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that in the absence of the xylanase is not effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof ~~in the absence of the xylanase~~, and the diet not containing an antimicrobial drug or containing an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that is not effective in the absence of the

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xylanase for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof ~~in the absence of the xylanase~~.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 30 wherein the xylanase is mixed with a feed to form an xylanase/feed mixture.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 31 wherein the xylanase is fed to the chickens in an amount of about 0.0001 to about 10 grams of xylanase per kg of xylanase/feed mixture.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 31 wherein the xylanase is fed to the chickens in an amount of about 0.001 to about 1 gram of xylanase per kg of xylanase/feed mixture. is mixed with a feed to form an xylanase/feed mixture.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 31 wherein the xylanase is fed to the chickens in an amount of about 0.01 to about 0.1 gram of xylanase per kg of xylanase/feed mixture.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 31 wherein the xylanase/feed mixture comprises at least about 25 % by weight of a cereal selected from the group consisting of wheat, maize, rye, barley, oats, triticale, rice, sorghum and mixtures thereof.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 35 wherein the cereal is wheat.

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Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 30 wherein the xylanase is obtained from a fungus selected from the group consisting of *Trichoderma*, *Aspergillus*, *Humicola*, *Neocallimastix*, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 30 wherein the xylanase is obtained from a bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Bacillus*, *Streptomyces*, *Clostridium*, *Ruminococcus*, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 30 wherein the diet is fed to the chickens without a withdrawal period prior to slaughtering of the chickens.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 30 wherein said diet does not contain an antimicrobial drug.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 30 wherein said diet contains an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that is not effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof in the absence of the xylanase.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 39 wherein said diet does not contain an antimicrobial drug.

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Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 39 wherein said diet contains an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that is not effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof in the absence of the xylanase.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn - Currently Amended): A method for ~~reducing or eliminating antimicrobial drugs in the~~ treatment and/or prophylaxis of a bacterial infection in chickens in the absence of therapeutic or prophylactic amounts of antimicrobial drugs, the bacterial infection caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof, the method comprising:

feeding the chickens a diet comprising a feed including a cellulase and at least about 25% by weight of a cereal selected from the group consisting of wheat, maize, rye, barley, oats, triticale, rice, sorghum and mixtures thereof, the diet being effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in the chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof, and the cellulase being present in an amount effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of the bacterial infection in the absence of an antimicrobial drug or in the presence of an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that in the absence of the cellulase is not effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof ~~in the absence of the cellulase~~, and the diet not containing an antimicrobial drug or containing an antimicrobial drug at

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a concentration that is not effective in the absence of the cellulose for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof ~~in the absence of the cellulase~~.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 44 wherein the cellulase is fed to the chickens in an amount of about 0.0001 to about 10 grams of cellulase per kg of the feed.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 44 wherein the cellulase is fed to the chickens in an amount of about 0.001 to about 1 gram of cellulase per kg of the feed.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 44 wherein the cellulase is fed to the chickens in an amount of about 0.01 to about 0.1 gram of cellulase per kg of the feed.

Claim 48 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 44 wherein the cereal is wheat.

Claim 49 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 44 wherein the cellulase is β -glucanase.

Claim 50 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 44 wherein the diet is fed to the chickens without a withdrawal period prior to slaughtering of the chickens.

Claim 51 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 44 wherein said diet does not contain an antimicrobial drug.

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Claim 52 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 44 wherein said diet contains an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that is not effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof in the absence of the cellulase.

Claim 53 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 50 wherein said diet does not contain an antimicrobial drug.

Claim 54 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 50 wherein said diet contains an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that is not effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof in the absence of the cellulase.

Claim 55 (Withdrawn - Currently Amended): A method for ~~reducing or eliminating antimicrobial drugs in the~~ treatment and/or prophylaxis of a bacterial infection in chickens in the absence of therapeutic or prophylactic amounts of antimicrobial drugs, the bacterial infection caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof, the method comprising:

feeding the chickens a diet comprising a feed including a β -glucanase and at least about 25% by weight of wheat, the diet being effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in the chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof, and the β -glucanase being

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present in an amount effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of the bacterial infection in the absence of an antimicrobial drug or in the presence of an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that in the absence of the β -glucanase is not effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof ~~in the absence of the β -glucanase~~, and the diet not containing an antimicrobial drug or containing an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that is not effective in the absence of the β -glucanase for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof ~~in the absence of the β -glucanase~~.

Claim 56 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 55 wherein the diet is fed to the chickens without a withdrawal period prior to slaughtering of the chickens.

Claim 57 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 55 wherein said diet does not contain an antimicrobial drug.

Claim 58 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 55 wherein said diet contains an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that is not effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof in the absence of the cellulase.

Claim 59 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 56 wherein said diet does not contain an antimicrobial drug.

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Claim 60 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 56 wherein said diet contains an antimicrobial drug at a concentration that is not effective for treatment and/or prophylaxis of bacterial infection in chickens caused by bacteria selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium perfringens*, and mixtures thereof in the absence of the cellulase.